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Feminine Faces Fancy Washington

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BY BARBARA KOBER

WASHINGTON. — The prestige of a congressional or Senate wife, like that of her solon husband, depends greatly on seniority — unless she happens to be related by marriage to the White House Kennedys.

When Mrs. Edward M. Kennedy moves to Washington with the other "Kennedy girls," this time honored tradition may change.

A Hearst Headline Service survey showed today that the wife of the senator who will, next January, sit in the vacated seat of President John F. Kennedy, is the youngest and one of the most beautiful new Senate wives.

Joan Kennedy and her sisters-in-law plan a major house-hunting tour next week when the youngest of the Kennedy clan arrives in the capital from a vacation on Squaw Island at Hyannis Port, Mass.

The 26-year-old blonde wife of the youngest U.S. senator plans to come to Washington "sometime soon."

THE KENNEDYS have a two-year-old daughter, Kara, and a one-year-old son, Edward Jr.

Only one new female face will appear on the House floor and none in the Senate. But behind the new men in both chambers are some attractive, intelligent women.

The female member of the House is Charlotte T. Reid, of Aurora, Ill., who already has a national reputation as a singer. Mrs. Reid became the Republican candidate in Illinois when her husband, Frank, died in the midst of his congressional campaign.



MRS. LEN JORDAN

Some of the new wives are as absorbed in political activities as their husbands. Mrs. Birch Bayh, wife of the Indiana Democrat who defeated veteran Sen. Capehart (R-Ind.), met her husband by defeating him in a debating contest when both were in college.

"We've been in politics ever since we were married and it is our life, our hobby and our main interest," Marvella Bayh said.

A WRITER, rather than a speaker, is Mrs. Len Jordan, who stayed in Idaho last year when her husband was appointed to fill the seat of the late Sen. Dworshak (R-Ida.).

Since her husband was elected to his own term, Mrs. Jordan will come to Washington and bring her unfinished book, "An Anthology of Writings About Idaho by Living Idahoans," with her.

Mrs. Thomas McIntyre, whose husband scored a Democratic upset in traditionally Republican New Hampshire, is an active politician too. She has served as Democratic national committeewoman from her state.



MRS. CHARLOTTE REID

Because of three small children Mrs. Gaylord Nelson, whose Wisconsin Democratic governor-husband will move into the seat of veteran Sen. Wiley (R-Wis.) had to sidestep some campaign events. She did manage to get to a few women's teas and coffees to help the governor in his bid for election to the Senate.

Washington will be nothing new to Mrs. Ogden R. Reid, wife of the former U.S. ambassador to Israel who was elected to Congress from New York.

"I've known Washington as a government girl, as a newspaperman's wife and will now see it as a congressional wife," the former CIA employee said.

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